

Jimmy Carter Library & Museum News Release

441 Freedom Parkway, Atlanta, GA 30307-1498

For Immediate Release

Date: September 21, 2004

Contact: Tony Clark, 404-865-7109 Tony.Clark@nara.gov

Release: NEWS04-12

Roger Williams Concert Headlines Carter Birthday Celebration

Daylong Celebration Planned at the Carter Presidential Library & Museum

ATLANTA, GA. – The Carter Presidential Library & Museum will celebrate former President Jimmy Carter's 80th Birthday with a special free day of music and theater.

Pianist Roger Williams, who also turns 80 on October 1st, will perform for a record-setting 13 ½ hours in the lobby of the Presidential Museum. Roger Williams is the greatest selling pianist in history, with 118 albums to his credit, 18 of them gold or platinum. His 1955 version of "Autumn Leaves" is the only piano instrumental to reach #1 on the Billboard singles chart and remains the best selling piano recording of all time. Having played for eight chief executives, he has earned the title "Pianist to the Presidents." The concert will last from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. It is open to the public at no charge.

Steinway has created **a special limited edition** *Roger Williams* **piano** for this event. The design of this art case was fashioned in a retro-art deco style taking design cues from both the furniture and architecture of the period. The piano features a gold metallic finish with a high gloss top coat. Around the perimeter of the case are the lyrics to the first verse of the song "Autumn Leaves" with a splash of falling leaves between each line of the verse.

Actress Joanna Maddox will present her new one-woman show "*Raising a President*." It tells the story of the life and wisdom of Rachel Clark, a day laborer who lived on the Carter farm with her husband Jack. In President Carter's book, *An Hour Before Daylight*, he wrote, "Of all the people who lived near us on the farm, Rachel Clark was the most remarkable and made the most significant and lasting impact on me." There will be free performances at 9:45 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 8 p.m. in the Museum Theater.

"Waging Peace," the documentary film on the work of the Carter Center will be shown in the museum theater during the afternoon. The film, narrated by Walter Cronkite, describes the Center's work on international conflict resolution, election monitoring, promoting democracy and fighting disease.

"After 9/11: Messages from the World and Images of Ground Zero" is a touching exhibit of artifacts and condolence messages sent from around the world following the 2001 attacks. It also includes dramatic photographs from ground zero taken by noted photographer Joel Meyerowitz. The exhibit will be on display until January 2, 2005.

The "After 9/11" exhibit and the permanent exhibit on the life and Presidency of Jimmy Carter will be open at no charge. The permanent exhibit includes photographs and historical memorabilia from the Carter presidency (1976 - 1981). An exact replica of the Oval Office and gifts received by the Carters are also featured.